

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /003 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:BDSHANKS
APPROVED BY PA/M:EJACOBSON
S/S-O;AWOTTO

-----125521 121708Z /46

O 121622Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 191232 TOSEC 080332

FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT BERNARD GWERTZMAN BY-LINER
NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, AUGUST 12 HEADED "DIARY OF A
DAY WITH THE PERIPATETIC MR. VANCE."
2. LONDON, AUGUST 11--THIS WAS SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS
R. VANCE'S LONGEST DAY--FIVE COUNTRIES IN ONE SWEEP--
AS HE COMPLETED HIS MIDDLE EAST MISSION. STARTING IN
ISRAEL THIS MORNING, IT INCLUDED STOPS IN JORDAN AND
EGYPT TO BRIEF THEIR LEADERS AND CONCLUDED TONIGHT IN
BRITAIN.
3. FOLLOWING IS ONE REPORTER'S DIARY OF THE DAY (ALL
TIMES ARE LOCAL).
4. 0600--BREAKFAST IN KING DAVID HOTEL IN JERUSALEM.
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- OVER HERRING AND YOGURT REPORTERS NOTE FASCINATING
ARTICLE IN JERUSALEM POST ASSERTING THAT AMERICAN
AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT, HERMANN F. EILTS, HAD MEETING
YESTERDAY WITH PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION OFFICIAL
TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE P.L.O. APPROVAL OF SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 242. IF ARTICLE TRUE, SECRETARY VANCE HAD
LIED TO PRESS ABOUT NO DIRECT CONTACTS WITH PLO.
5. 0635--DEPART JERUSALEM FOR BEN-GURION AIRPORT. SKY

IS CLEAR, ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL DAY. FUMING IN BUS BY REPORTERS ABOUT EILTS ARTICLE.

6. 0735--ARRIVAL AT VANCE PLANE, AN AIR FORCE 707, PARKED IN FRONT OF MAIN TERMINAL, WITH USUAL LA;GE NUMBER OF ISRAELI SECURITY POLICE SURROUNDING THE CRAFT. TYPE-WRITERS AND BAGS CHECKED FOR BOMBS BY AMERICAN SECURITY MEN.

7. 0750--MR. VANCE AND OFFICIAL ENTOURAGE ARRIVE, ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN, AMBASSADOR SIMCHA DINITZ AND OTHERS, BUT SURPRISINGLY HE HAS NO DEPARTURE STATEMENT FOR THE SMALL CROWD OF ISRAELI CAMERAMEN AND REPORTERS IN FENCED-OFF AREA. HE SAID ALL HE HAD TO SAY AT PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY.

8. 0755--ABOARD PLANE REPORTERS CONVERGE ON HODDING CARTER 3D, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, AND ON PHILIP C. HABIB, THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, ABOUT JERUSALEM POST ARTICLE. "WHOLE STORY IS FICTITIOUS," MR. CARTER SAYS. "IT IS BULL," MR. HABIB ADDS, THROWING IN SEVERAL EXPLETIVES AS WELL. THE FORCE OF THE DENIALS SEEMS TO SATISFY THE 17 JOURNALISTS IN THE BACK OF THE PLANE, WHO UNCLASSIFIED

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SHARE THE AREA WITH SECRETARIES, SECURITY PEOPLE AND SOME VANCE AIDES. UP FRONT, IN AN OFFICE AREA, MR. VANCE SITS HAVING COFFEE WITH WIFE, AND A FEW OTHER AIDES SHARE ANOTHER TABLE.

9. 0810--ALFRED L. ATHERTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS, RUSHES TO REAR OF PLANE AND STARTS RUMMAGING IN A "CLASSIFIED" BRIEFCASE IN AN AGITATED WAY. A QUICK CHECK OF PASSENGERS FINDS ABOUT A THIRD STILL SUFFERING FROM SOME TRAVEL DISORDER OF THE STOMACH--AT ONE TIME EARLIER IN THE WEEK THE TOTAL WAS CLOSER TO 75 PERCENT--AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT DOCTOR REPORTS THAT WHILE NO ONE IS VERY SICK, NO ONE IS EXACTLY LIVELY, INCLUDING MR. VANCE, WHO HAD A THREE-DAY SEIGE WITH THE TOURIST'S LAMENT.

10. 0815--BETTING POOL ORGANIZED, WITH WINNER THE PERSON WHO GUESSES THE EXACT SECOND THE PLANE TOUCHES DOWN IN JORDAN. AT A DOLLAR A CHANCE THE POTENTIAL TAKE IS \$60.

11. 0820--WHEELS DOWN. THE WINNING NUMBER WAS 23 AND THE WINNER ONE OF THE AIR FORCE FLIGHT ATTENDANTS.

12. 0825--MR. VANCE AND A FEW AIDES BOARD TWO FRENCH-BUILT HELICOPTERS FOR FIVE-MINUTE RIDE TO KING HUSSEIN'S

PALACE AT OTHER END OF AMMAN. REPORTERS IN A WORKING
POOL BOARD TWO MORE OF THE SMALL HELICOPTERS.

13. 0840--MR. VANCE, KING HUSSEIN AND AIDES SIT
AROUND TABLE IN ULTRAMODERN PALACE AND POSE FOR
PHOTOS. MR. VANCE, WHO IS NOT EXACTLY A SPINNER OF
JOKES, REMARKS THAT IT IS HARD TO GET UP EARLY AND
FACE BRIGHT LIGHTS. EVERYONE SMILES. JOURNALISTS
SHUFFLE INTO A LIVING ROOM TO ADMIRE, WHILE WAITING FOR
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.THE MEETING TO END, THE KING'S COLLECTION OF MAUSER
AUTOMATIC PISTOLS IN A GLASSED-IN CABINET--HE HAS 80 OF
THEM--AND HIS SONY STEREO COMPLEX--VERY EXPENSIVE. HIS
TASTE IN RECORDS, AT LEAST FROM THE COVERS LYING AROUND,
RUNS TO "SIMON AND GARFUNKEL'S GREATEST HITS," "ANDY
WILLIAMS' GREATEST HITS" AND SIMILAR COLLECTIONS FROM RAY
CONIFF AND JACK JONES.

14. 0850--REPORTERS OFFERED CHOICE OF BEVERAGES AND
TAKE A LOOK AT COVERED SWIMMING POOL AND ADJACENT
TENNIS COURTS. GUARDS EVERYWHERE.

15. 0900--A PRESS OFFICER REMINDS REPORTERS THAT TODAY
IS 25TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE DAY WHEN KING HUSSEIN TOOK
OVER THRONE AND THAT MAJOR CEREMONY SET FOR LATER THAT
DAY. CBS MAN TOLD THAT KING HAD CONSENTED TO INTERVIEW
YESTERDAY BUT THAT CBS MAN WAS NOT IN TOWN AS HE WAS
SUPPOSED TO BE. SEEMS HE WAS SENT TO BEIRUT TO INTER-
VIEW PLO MAN INSTEAD.

16. 0905--MEETING BREAKS UP, AND PARTICIPANTS CHAT,
STANDING AROUND HAVING TEA. MR. VANCE AND KING HUSSEIN
BY SELVES IN CORNER, WITH KING ABOUT HALF THE SIZE OF
MR. VANCE. LOUD LAUGHTER HEARD FROM KING.

17. 0915--EVERYONE WALKS TO HELICOPTERS. KING SAYS A
FEW UPBEAT WORDS ABOUT BEING FURTHER ENCOURAGED HAVING
SPOKEN TO MR. VANCE ABOUT THE RESULTS OF HIS MISSION.

18. 0920--HELICOPTER UP.

19. 0925--HELICOPTER LANDS AT AIRPORT.

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20. 0945--WHEELS UP FOR DAMASCUS.

21. 1000--ELVA MORGAN, MR. VANCE'S SECRETARY, STARTS

TYPING ROUTINE THANK-YOU CABLE TO BE SENT BY RADIO TO KING HUSSEIN. MOST OF PASSENGERS DOZING OR READING.

22. 1005--WORD SPREADS ABOUT OVERNIGHT PANAMA CANAL AGREEMENT.

23. 1120--WHEELS DOWN IN DAMASCUS, ONE HOUR LATER THAN AMMAN. CARAVAN OF IMPALAS TAKES EVERYONE INTO CITY, PASSING, AS USUAL, CURIOUS GROUPS OF SYRIANS SWELTERING IN HEAT, WONDERING WHERE THE CARS ARE RUSHING. A SYRIAN ARMY HELICOPTER, IN TAN AND GREEN CAMOUFLAGE, CIRCLES OVERHEAD.

24. 1150--MR. VANCE GOES TO SEE PRESIDENT HAFEZ AL-ASSAD AND MOST OF THE REST OF THE PARTY GO TO AMBASSADOR RICHARD MURPHY'S RESIDENCE, A CHARMING HOUSE BOUGHT BY THE UNITED STATES AT END OF WORLD WAR II AND PROBABLY THE BEST EMBASSY BUILDING IN DAMASCUS. MRS. MURPHY SERVES A BUFFET LUNCH, AND REPORTERS TURN HER PORCH INTO A MAKESHIFT PRESSROOM.

25. 1300--WORD IS RECEIVED THAT DEPARTURE MAY BE DELAYED BECAUSE THERE WERE TWO FLAT TIRES ON MR. VANCE'S AIR FORCE PLANE. NOBODY CAN REMEMBER A SIMILAR INCIDENT.

26. 1410--EVERYONE IS AWAKENED FROM NAPS AND TOLD THAT THE PLANE IS READY TO TAKE OFF AND TO GET TO THE AIRPORT. A CARAVAN WAS FORMED AND SENT ON ITS WAY.

27. 1455--AFTER AN UNEXPLAINED DETOUR TO AN AIRPORT HOTEL, THE CARAVAN ARRIVES AT PLANESIDE. THE WHEELS UNCLASSIFIED

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LOOKED O.K. THE CREW REPORTS THAT THE PLANE INDEED HAD TWO FLATS--IT SEEMS VALVES GAVE WAY IN THE HEAT. ONE OF THE TIRES WAS REPLACED WITH A SPARE THAT THE PLANE CARRIED; THE CREW WAS ABLE TO REPLACE THE FAULTY VALVE ON THE OTHER TIRE.

28. 1500--A THREE-MAN PRESS POOL SHOWS UP AT THE PLANE. THE REPORTERS HAD HAD TO SIT OUTSIDE THE ASSAD-VANCE MEETING FOR TWO HOURS. THEY SAID THE MAIN EXCITEMENT WAS THAT THERE WAS A FIRE ACROSS THE STREET THAT WAS QUICKLY PUT OUT BUT CAUSED GREAT AGITATION FOR THE SYRIAN SECURITY POLICE. THE REPORTERS SAID THAT MR. ASSAD MADE NO STATEMENT AFTERWARD BUT MR. VANCE THANKED HIM FOR GIVING HIM SO MUCH TIME.

29. 1509--WHEELS UP FOR EGYPT.

30. 1530--SOME REPORTER POINTS OUT THAT MR. VANCE

HAS NOT VISITED IN THE REAR OF THE PLANE WITH THE PRESS FOR THE LAST NINE DAYS. IN THE PAST HENRY A. KISSINGER AND HIS PREDECESSOR, WILLIAM P. ROGERS, AND EVEN MR. VANCE ON SOME EARLIER TRIPS USED TO WALK TO THE BACK OF THE PLANE AND CHAT WITH REPORTERS ON ALMOST EVERY FLIGHT. THIS GAVE THE CORRESPONDENTS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS BEYOND FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCES; IT ALSO SEEMED TO SERVE AS A WAY FOR A SECRETARY OF STATE TO LEARN WHAT WAS ON EVERYONE'S MIND. VARIOUS THEORIES ARE OFFERED ON WHY MR. VANCE ONLY SITS UP FRONT. CONSENSUS SEEMS TO BE THAT MR. VANCE IS SHY, UNENAMORED OF PRESS AND ALSO VERY BUSY.

31. 1509 (EGYPTIAN TIME, ONE HOUR BACK)--PLANE LANDS AT GYNAECOPOLIS MILITARY BASE, THE ONLY AIRFIELD
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BETWEEN CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA ABLE TO TAKE 707'S. PRESIDENT SADAT CAME DOWN FROM ALEXANDRIA IN WHAT AMOUNTED TO A SIGNIFICANT GESTURE SINCE HE MUCH PREFERENCES TO STAY BY THE SEASHORE. HE AND MR. VANCE MET AT ANOTHER ONE OF MR. SADAT'S MANY GUEST HOUSES--THIS ONE A BEAUTIFUL STUCCO BUILDING ON A PLANTATION.

32. 1630--MR. SADAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED WITH THE WESTERN PRESS AND HAS RARELY LET THE OCCASION OF A MEETING WITH MR. KISSINGER OR MR. VANCE PASS WITHOUT A NEWS CONFERENCE, AND IN ADDITION A NEWS CONFERENCE THAT PRODUCED NEWS. BUSES OF REPORTERS AND CAMERAMEN HAVE CONVERGED ON THIS OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLACE. MR. SADAT IS DRESSED IN A CASUAL CHARCOAL BROWN JUMPSUIT AND IS LIVELY AND JOKING AS HE LEADS A FATIGUED-LOOKING MR. VANCE TO THE MICROPHONE AFTER THEIR HOUR-LONG MEETING. MR. VANCE MAKES A FEW DIPLOMATIC REMARKS ABOUT HOW GOOD IT WAS FOR MR. SADAT TO RECEIVE HIM. MR. SADAT TELLS NEWSMEN THAT MR. VANCE HAD MADE HIM AGREE NOT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS BUT HE WILL ANTICIPATE SOME, HE SAYS. HE SAYS HE IS UPSET BY "VERY HARD ISRAELI LINE." THEN HE ADDS HIS "NEWS": "AND MAY I REMIND ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED THAT THE SECOND DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT EXPIRES IN OCTOBER 1978." HE CHUCKLES AND SO DOES MR. VANCE, NERVOUSLY. A WAVE OF EXCITEMENT SPREADS AMONG THE PRESS BECAUSE ONCE AGAIN MR. SADAT HAS GIVEN THEM A PEG FOR THEIR DISPATCHES.

33. 1700--AS THE PLANE DEPARTS FOR LONDON, OFFICIALS ON THE VANCE AIRCRAFT TRY TO SOFTEN THE IMPACT OF MR. SADAT'S STATEMENT. ONE ADVISER SAYS THIS IS NOT A NEW THING. REPORTERS WHO WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE EXACT TERMS PULL OUT THE 1975 ACCORD AND FIND THAT THE TEXT

DOES NOT SAY THAT IT WILL EXPIRE IN 1978, BUT

VETERANS OF THE KISSINGER SHUTTLE REMEMBER THAT THERE
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WAS AN UNPUBLISHED AGREEMENT THAT EGYPT WOULD
RENEW THE PEACEKEEPING FORCE FOR ONLY THREE YEARS. MR.
VANCE REMAINS IN THE FRONT OF THE PLANE AND SHOWS NO IN-
TEREST IN THIS LATEST DEVELOPMENT, WHICH ALMOST SURELY
HE WAS NOT COUNTING ON SINCE IT WILL FEED THE HARD LINE
IN ISRAEL.

1910--EVERYONE IS QUITE HUNGRY BY NOW AND DINNER IS
SERVED. THE CUISINE ON THE AIR FORCE PLANE HAS RARELY
BEEN UP TO THE COMMERCIAL EQUIVALENT AND IN THE LAST
YEAR IT SEEMS TO HAVE DETERIORATED STEADILY. TONIGHT
MR. VANCE WAS SERVED WHAT THE AIR FORCE, ERRONEOUSLY,
REGARDS AS HIS FAVORITE FOOD--HOT DOGS AND BAKED BEANS.
THE REST OF THE PASSENGERS GOT LUKEWARM CANNED BEEF
STEW, CARROTS AND POTATOES, SOME FRESH LETTUCE, AN
IMITATION CHOCOLATE PUDDING, AND SOME NONDESCRIPT RED
WINE.

2030--CROWDS ARE SEEN OUT THE WINDOW THE FIRST TIME IN
MANY DAYS. THE TEMPERATURE IS 73 DEGREES OUTSIDE, THE
FIRST TIME IN NEARLY TWO WEEKS IT HAS DIPPED UNDER 90.
AS THE PLANE BEGINS ITS DESCENT THERE IS THE SOUND
OF TYPEWRITERS AS NEWSMEN TRY TO FINISH THEIR STORIES
AND SECRETARIES FINISH OFF THEIR CABLES. THERE IS
ANOTHER BETTING POOL ON WHAT SECOND THE PLANE WILL
LAND. THE WINNING NUMBER IS 30, HELD BY A NATIONAL
SECURITY COUNCIL SPECIALIST ON THE MIDDLE EAST. AND
IT IS PROBABLY THE RIGHT NUMBER WITH WHICH TO END A
DIARY SINCE IT IS NEWSPAPER JARGON FOR THE END OF A
STORY. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE191232
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PA/M:BDSHANKS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770291-0364
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197708117/baaaetmt.tel
Line Count: 309
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9c8ab350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1445631
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, US, XF, NEW YORK TIMES, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GWERTZMAN, BERNARD) BERNARD)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9c8ab350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009